

DaMinutes of the Ad Hoc Committee on Best Practices in Municipal Decision Making.

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM in the Library of the Leeds School.

Present were Lisa DePiano, Michael Bardsley, David Narkewicz, Alex Ghiselin and Bob Reckman. Jesus Leyva and Emma Narkewicz were present as members of the public.

There was a brief discussion of the Meadows Forum and our understanding of the history of that process. David said that he had talked to Teri Anderson who said that she had missed the second overview meeting because of illness and had not understood the mistake in the language until just before the meeting of the Planning Board. We also clarified what some of the changes were.

Bob reported that Patte Shaugnessy had suggested several dates for a Senior Oriented Forum at the Senior Center. The dates were too early in October. Bob will talk to Patte about later dates and report back. Lisa, David and Alex will discuss how the forum might be structured. Bob offered to moderate the forum if the group so desired.

Lisa will coordinate meeting dates before our next meeting.

Bob described his conversations with women from Portland OG and Vancouver, BC about their experiences with public participation. He will write up a summary of these conversations for the BPC and distribute it to the committee before the next meeting.

The committee discussed Design Northampton Week. Bob described the plans of the Forum for the week. The committee discussed the possibility of using the kickoff event to publicize our work. Alex was interested in having a Vote No table. Bob agreed to confirm with Joel that this would be fine if the table was not in the building. Lisa will prepare a flyer about the Senior Oriented Forum dates for distribution at the kickoff event.

Our next meeting will be on September 25 at 6 PM in the BPW Board Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted.

Bob Reckman